

City of Dublin - Emerald Glen Recreation and Aquatic Complex

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is included in this project?

A: The City of Dublin is committed to providing the highest quality recreational and fitness amenities for our residents. The Emerald Glen Recreation and Aquatic Complex will provide a wonderful amenity for Dublin and Tri-Valley residents of all ages from young children to seniors. The Complex Includes:

- Indoor pool with six lap lanes
- Outdoor competitive pool for swim team and water polo (eight lanes for competition and three warm-up lanes)
- Outdoor water playground with sprays and drop buckets
- 48-foot tall slide tower
- Picnic areas and cabanas
- Fitness center
- Over seven acres of park amenities include outdoor amphitheater, large plaza for events, and public art

Q: When will construction begin and end?

A: The contract for this project was awarded in February 2015, and construction began March 2015. It is anticipated construction will be complete in early 2017.

Q: What is the cost of this project and how is it being funded?

A: Construction (including a 10% contingency) will cost \$36.0 million and the total project cost will be \$43.8 million. The vast majority of the funding comes from development fees collected over the past decade, with \$3.0 million coming from the City's General Fund.

Q: Why is Dublin building a "water park" when we don't have enough water to serve residents?

A: The Recreation and Aquatic Complex is designed to serve local residents of all ages, from beginning swimmers to those benefitting from warm water therapy in a shallow pool. The facility represents a very small portion of overall municipal water usage. It is not designed as a full-scale water amusement park. Media reports suggesting that the City's new recreational facility is intended on being a super-regional draw are simply false.

The City has been very responsible and responsive to voluntary (and now mandatory) calls for conservation, meeting and exceeding all of the targets set by agencies. The current drought should not be the driving factor of whether to build a long-term investment/facility for the community. There is a community need for this project and it has been in the planning stages for over a decade. The Complex is expected to be ready for occupancy in early 2017, which means that, in addition to the rains that we received during the 2015-16 rain season, there is still one winter season prior to its opening. If the drought persists into 2017 and mandatory actions are in place at that time, the City would certainly continue to be responsive and act responsibly to all conservation actions.

Q: What is the City of Dublin doing to conserve potable water?

A: The City has been recognized as a leader in recycled water usage. Recycled water is water that is non-potable (not drinkable). Outdoor irrigation is, by far, the largest use of water. In Dublin, we have converted many of our parks and landscaped medians from potable water to recycled water. Approximately 91% of our municipal operations/outdoor irrigation is now using recycled water. To put that into perspective, in the last few years, we have reduced the City's potable water usage by 164 million gallons a year.

Q: What about impacts to neighbors?

A: We understand that it can be difficult living next to a public gathering space such as a park. We should be clear that this facility is not the same as a large-scale commercial water park. Most of our activities are focused on lap swimming, lessons and other recreation programs (such as summer day camps). While the project includes slides, sprays and drop-buckets, they are not going to be at the same scale as what you can imagine from a large scale water park. This is a community park.

The impacts of noise and traffic were studied as part of our environmental review and the City is confident that facility operations will keep conflicts to a minimum. We anticipate that there will be an average of about 500 visitors per day, mostly during daylight hours and during the warmer months.

We already host our summer concert series, special events such as “splatter” and the Dublin Farmers’ Market at the park and they have operated smoothly for several years. We are confident this new complex will operate smoothly as well.

Q: What has been done to notify residents about this project?

A: We have been actively promoting this long-awaited, much anticipated amenity. For the past several years, our City newsletter which is mailed to each home has included prominent articles about the project. We have information on our website www.dublin.ca.gov/thewave with two webcams so viewers can watch the construction over time. We also had public participation and noticing requirements during the environmental review period. We are definitely trying to get the word out about this project which has been included in park plans for over a decade.

Q: How can I learn more and stay informed?

A: Sign up on www.dublin.ca.gov for Newsflashes on the Parks & Community Services list.